

REMARKS

Claim 2 has been amended to narrow the range of the carbon atom number for the straight or branched fluoroalkyl group represented by Rf^1 . Also, claim 2 has been amended to incorporate therein the recitation of claim 7. Claims 6 and 7 have been canceled.

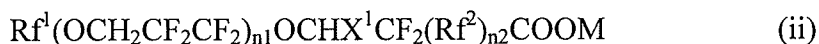
Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested as placing the case in condition for allowance.

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested.

Claims 2-4, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,725,375 to Fujii et al.

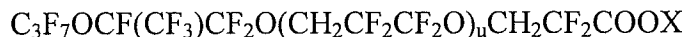
Applicants traverse, and respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider in view of the amendment to the claims and the following remarks.

The fluoroalkylcarboxylic acid derivative of amended claim 2 is represented by the general formula (ii):



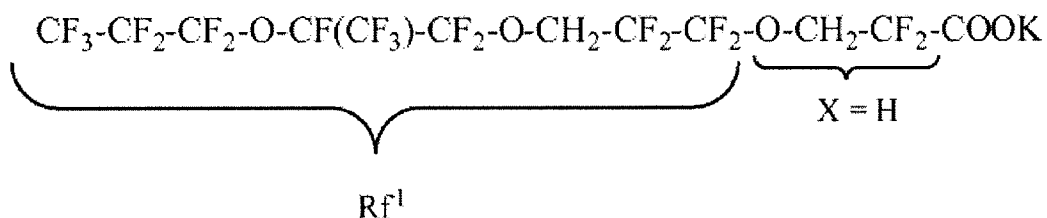
wherein $n1$ is 0 (zero), $n2$ is 0 (zero) and Rf^1 contains 1 to 8 carbon atoms.

On the other hand, Fujii et al was cited as disclosing the following compound:



Wherein $n2 = 1$ in the notation of Formula (ii) above outside the scope of the amended claims.

Fujii et al was also cited as disclosing the following compound:



Where Rf^I has 9 carbon atoms in the notation of Formula (ii) above outside the scope of amended claim 2.

Therefore, the two compounds have different structures, such that the amended claims define novel subject matter.

Further, there is no apparent reason which would lead one of ordinary skill to modify the compound of Fujii et al to arrive at the presently claimed fluoroalkyl carboxylic acid derivative.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are not anticipated by Fujii et al, and withdrawal of the foregoing rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 2-4 and 8 is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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